

The First 50 Women in Idaho Law

RITA THERESE REUSCH

September 30, 1975



Rita Therese Reusch was born in 1948 in White Bear Lake, Minnesota, a suburb of St. Paul. She attended Macalester College in St. Paul and the University of Minnesota, from which she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 1972. Reusch knew by her sophomore year of college that she was very interested in the way law worked and wanted to go to law school. She moved to Idaho to attend the University of Idaho College of Law, where she graduated first in her class in 1975.

On September 30, 1975, she was admitted to practice law in Idaho. Immediately thereafter, Reusch clerked two years for Justice Robert E. Bakes at the Idaho Supreme Court. Justice Bakes says, "Rita was an extremely talented young woman with a keen analytical mind and a penchant for legal research." After her clerkship, Reusch attended the University of Washington School of Librarianship and, in 1978, received a Masters in Law Librarianship. She since has held many prominent positions as law librarian and professor at the University of Idaho College of Law, the University of North Dakota School of Law, and most recently at the University of Utah College of Law. Reusch has taught a variety of subjects, including legal writing, legal research, and intellectual property.

Reusch is an active and well-respected member of her profession. She has served on professional committees for the American Association of Libraries, the Association of American Law Schools, the American Bar Association, and the Research Libraries Group, among many others. Reusch is a frequent speaker and has authored several publications on the topics of legal research and law library management.

Reusch and her husband, Jesse Trentadue, married the night before law school graduation. They are celebrating their thirtieth wedding anniversary in 2005. Their daughter Anna is a second year law student at the University of San Francisco and their son Jesse is a senior at Carlton College in Minnesota.

Reusch lives in Salt Lake City, Utah.